### State Board of Registration for Land Surveyors

#### **Indiana Government Center South**

# 402 West Washington Street, Conference Center Room 5

### Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

## Minutes of the January 14, 2011 Board Meeting

Christine Arnold, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. and declared a quorum in accordance with IC 25-4.

**Members Present:** 

Christine Arnold, Chairperson

Richard Hudson

Gary Kent, Board Liaison

Doug Lechner John Stephens

**State Officials Present:** 

Elizabeth Kiefner Crawford

Board Director, Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

Crystal Heard

Assistant Board Director, Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

James Schmidt

Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

**Board Action**: The Board voted to adopt the agenda.

Participating Board Members: Arnold, Hudson, Kent, Lechner, Stephens

Motion carried Stephens/Kent 5-0-0

Board Action: The Board voted to adopt the minutes of the October 8, 2010 meeting with

amendments.

Motion carried Stephens/Kent 5-0-0

**Board Action**: A motion was made and seconded to approve all recommendations and decisions made by the Board members on applications by examinations and Land Surveyors applications for licensure by Comity that were reviewed throughout the Board meeting.

# Motion carried Hudson/Stephens 5-0-0

The Board's liaison, Gary Kent, reported that he has heard from the Office of the Attorney General since the Board's last meeting. Kent reported that the Office of the Attorney General has recently hired a new analyst and is currently backlogged on cases.

#### PERSONAL APPEARANCES

The following appeared before the full Board for their scheduled personal appearances:

<u>William Pettitt, Land Surveyor</u>: Doug Lechner reported that he did not receive surveys from Pettitt until the Tuesday before the Board meeting and that he could not open the email attachment. Lechner did receive a report from the individual currently serving as Pettitt's mentor. Pettitt is to contact ISPLS or Board staff for a list of individuals willing to serve as mentors since his current

mentor has now quit reviewing Pettitt's surveys. Lechner would like to see at least one more review period for Pettitt. Pettitt is to submit the name of his new mentor to Lechner.

**Zohrab Tazian, Land Surveyor**: John Stephens reported that Tazian has recently submitted two surveys which Stephens has not yet reviewed. Stephens anticipates reviewing the surveys with Tazian in the next few weeks. Stephens reported that things are improving substantially with Tazian. Tazian thanked the Board for allowing him to miss last quarter's personal appearance. Tazian reported completion of three (3) metes and bounds surveys in the last quarter and that he is taking classes when available.

<u>John Manship</u>, <u>Land Surveyor</u>: was not present for his personal appearance due to continued health problems.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

# Robert D. Peterson, Land Surveyor: License No. LS29600005, Cause No. SBRLS 04-07

Respondent did not appear either in person or by counsel regarding an Order to Show Cause issued by the Board on December 9, 2010. Natalie Stidd, Deputy Attorney General, appeared on behalf of the State of Indiana. The court reporter sworn for this hearing was Lindy Meyer. The State of Indiana requested a Notice of Proposed Default.

Participating Board Members: Arnold, Hudson, Kent, Lechner, Stephens

**Board Action**: After taking official notice of its file in the matter, the Board moved to issue a Notice of Proposed Default.

Motion carried Kent/Stephens 5-0-0

The following administrative hearings were continued:

John Manship, Eugene Farrow and William Stine.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Kent reported that he has reviewed a few submissions and that he needs additional information in regards to Civil 3D.

#### PROBATIONARY REPORTS

**Zohrab Tazian (Stephens)**- made a personal appearance before the Board on today's date.

<u>J. Bernard Feeney (Holloway)</u>- Holloway was not present to give a report, however, Board staff indicated that Feeney has not submitted any new reports.

Michael Sadlon (Stephens)- John Stephens reported that Sadlon is completing all SLR's.

**Robert Peterson (Stephens)**- Board staff indicated that Peterson has not submitted any new reports.

<u>Steve Williams (Stephens)</u>- John Stephens reported that he has not opened any information received from Williams since an Order to Show Cause was issued by the Board in July 2010. Williams' new probationary designee will be Gary Kent. Stephens will forward Kent the unopened information received from Williams.

William Pettitt (Lechner) - made a personal appearance before the Board on today's date.

<u>John Manship (Kent)</u>-Board staff indicated that Manship would not appear due to continued health problems.

## **BOARD DIRECTOR REPORT**

Crawford reported there are currently 428 land surveyors in training, 921 land surveyors, 5 land surveyor professional corporations, 26 CE Provider-land surveyor, and 105 land surveyor firms active in the State of Indiana. Kent requested a breakdown of in state active land surveyor licenses. There are a total of 1485 active licenses and 53 inactive.

Crawford reported that Senate Bill 374 has been introduced in the 2011 legislative session The Board had a general discussion about the bill. ISPLS indicated that they are in favor of the bill.

Crawford reported on the current status of the investigative fee rule. Lechner will serve as the Board liaison for language regarding the proposed rule.

**Board Action**: The Board made a motion to allow for an additional fee of \$20.00 per licensee to be utilized for the investigative fund. The \$20.00 investigative fund fee is in addition to any fees already levied and will be collected at both the time of license application and at the time of renewal of licensure. The goal is to have a public hearing in April regarding this rule.

Participating Board Members: Arnold, Hudson, Kent, Lechner, Stephens

Motion carried Kent/Stephens 5-0-0

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Arnold requested that the Board authorize Crawford to serve as an associate member for NCEES. Kent agreed to email NCEES with this information.

NCEES Central Zone awards were discussed and all agreed that Indiana currently has no nominations.

Kent reported on a recent trip to NCEES. Kent indicated that NCEES has approved a position statement regarding the four year requirement to sit for licensure. Kent noted that the NCEES is already actively moving to require a four year degree.

Kent further reported that the number of applicants for examination for land surveyors nationwide is dropping significantly. In April 2008 over 1000 candidates nationwide sat for the SIT exam and 963 for the professional exam. In October 2010, only 475 candidates sat for the SIT exam and 567 for the professional exam. Both exams are moving nationally towards a computerized, closed book exam model.

The Board reviewed information provided by William Dougherty, land surveyor, in regards to the continuing education audit.

**Board Action**: The Board, after reviewing all information presented, decided to issue a notice of non-compliance. The notice of non-compliance will allow Mr. Dougherty 6 months time to make up 24 hours of continuing education and pay a \$1000.00 civil penalty within 21 days.

Participating Board Members: Arnold, Hudson, Kent, Lechner, Stephens

Motion carried Lechner/Stephens 5-0-0

Date

There being no further business and having completed its duties, the meeting of the State Board of Registration for Land Surveyors adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

**Christine Arnold - Chairperson** 

State Board of Registration for Land Surveyors